**Transparency and Responsibility in**

**Public Administration: The Case of Romania**

Author names and affiliations

Full contact details of the authors

**Abstract**: “Transparency” is often mentioned in the media. However, it remains an ambiguous concept. This article presents a blueprint for the websites of Romanian municipalities, built through the lens of transparency. Although the law makes it mandatory for municipalities to post particular information online, they either omit or post a minimum amount of information just to “follow” the rules, without giving any evidence of interest. Assuming that displaying more information online as requested by the law will lead to an increase in the users’ confidence in the system, we examined the websites of all municipalities in Romania (103) to access financial data (budgets, financial indicators, assets, etc.). This article presents a brief report of how the government responds to citizens’ concerns. The results are not satisfactory. We believe that such an analysis will create competition between municipalities, in which the citizens will ultimately be the winners.

**Keywords:** government; municipality; electronic; transparency; responsibility